



PathForward Project

Procurement & Materiel
University of California /DOE
Contract W-7405-ENG-48

November 1, 2000

Subject: **Request for Information about File Systems Technologies**

Dear RFI Recipient:

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratories, in support of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Defense Programs, are developing critical path technologies under the Accelerated Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI) which supports the DOE Stockpile Stewardship Program. The PathForward vision includes participation by domestic, commercial industry in accelerating development of key high performance computing technologies in general. In particular, this request from the ASCI PathForward project is seeking information and interest from U.S. Industry about the development of key technologies necessary to accelerate file system capabilities. This is not a Request for a Proposal.

Responses are due no later than **December 1, 2000**. Responses should be approximately 5 pages in length but must not exceed 10 pages. Responses will be evaluated by individuals from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratory and DOE. If proprietary data is included in your response, it must be marked "Proprietary" and the ASCI PathForward project will use its best efforts to avoid disclosure to the general public. If you intend to provide information under a non-disclosure agreement, contact the Primary RFI Contact and arrange for a visit from the Technical Advisory Committee.

The document entitled "Request for Information: GFS/DFS File Systems" describes several file system technology categories of particular interest to the ASCI PathForward project. Your response to this request for information may address one or more of these categories based on your firm's expertise and capabilities. The ASCI PathForward project is interested in all of these technologies and has no bias towards any particular technology or approach. Other technologies related to file systems may be proposed and the ASCI PathForward project will consider them on their merits.

Your response should show a high level "course of direction and potential new R&D areas." Elaborate submittals are discouraged. You should describe specific areas of technological interest and capability that could be developed and commercialized by your firm on a rapid time scale. Your response could address the following topics for each technology of interest to you.

*High Performance Computing Procurement Group, Mail Station 550
7000 East Avenue, Livermore, CA 94550
P.O. Box 808, Livermore, CA 94551*

Current Status

What is the current status of the technology you propose to develop? What is your current development path and schedule for the technology and what might the status be within the next two years without additional ASCI PathForward project support and funding?

Accelerated Development

How would you achieve a systematic acceleration in the indicated technology area? Would this result in products which could be used as part of your commercial marketing efforts?

Capabilities

Provide a summary of your company's background as it relates to the technology or technologies that interest you. The ASCI PathForward project is specifically interested in experience, resources and directly related past experiences.

Intellectual Property

The ASCI PathForward project anticipates that intellectual property rights to inventions and copyrights developed under PathForward funding may be retained by the company performing the development, provided that appropriate conditions exist and documentation is filed with DOE.

The ASCI PathForward project is not requesting a proposal, detailed plans, budgetary information, or proprietary information about any file system technology. Any decision to proceed with an RFP will depend upon the responses received to this request for information and the future availability of funding. At this time, no funding is available for this project. However, based on the responses received, one or more awards could be made with annual funding ranges of \$500,000 to \$1,200,000 each for two or three year periods of performance. If the ASCI program elects to proceed with this project, an RFP could be issued in the first quarter of CY 2001. Subcontract award could be made in the spring of 2001.

Responses in electronic format, via email or diskette as MS Word .doc or Adobe .pdf files, are highly preferred. If you wish to encrypt electronic files, use Entrust or PGP software. Alternately, responders must provide six paper copies of their response. Responses submitted in paper format or on diskette must be submitted as follows.

Address for Commercial Courier

Ann Huber, Mail Station L-550
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
7000 East Avenue
Livermore, CA 94550

Address for Mailing

Ann Huber, Mail Station L-550
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
P.O. Box 808
Livermore, CA 94551

Subject: **RFI for GFS/DFS Technologies**

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Please direct questions of a technical nature to Terry Jones by telephone at (925) 423-9834, by facsimile at (925) 423-8704 or by email at trj@llnl.gov. Direct administrative questions to the undersigned by telephone at (925) 422-6564, by facsimile at (925) 423-8019, or by email at huber2@llnl.gov. Since this is not an RFP, questions and answers exchanged between the project and any firm will not be published to other firms receiving this request.

Sincerely,

Ann Huber
Sr. Contract Administrator

Enclosures: As Noted